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LETTER DATED 7 AUGUST 1991 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVES OF BELGIUM, FRANCE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

We have the honour to transmit to you a copy of the letter addressed today to the President of the Security Council, His Excellency Ambassador José Ayala Lasso. The letter deals with the current situation in Yugoslavia.

We should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Frans van DAELE
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Belgium
to the United Nations

(Signed) Jean Marc ROCHEREAU DE LA SABLIERE
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of France
to the United Nations

(Signed) Sir David HANNAY
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
to the United Nations

Annex

Declaration on Yugoslavia

The Community and its member States reviewed the situation in Yugoslavia on the basis of the report submitted by the Ministerial Troika. They welcomed the activities of the Troika and asked them to continue their efforts.

The Community and its member States reconfirm their commitment to seek, with all parties concerned, a peaceful and negotiated solution to the present crisis. They will actively pursue their efforts to this end in accordance with the Joint Declaration of Brioni of 7 July 1991.

They are greatly concerned about the continuing bloodshed in Yugoslavia and deplore the absence of a cease-fire, and urge the acceptance of such a cease-fire, which the Troika has been trying to establish.

They strongly condemn the continuing use of force and attempts of any republic to impose by force solutions on other republics. They express the Twelve's strong interest in a peaceful solution to Yugoslavia's problems, not only for the sake of Yugoslavia itself and its constituent peoples, but for Europe as a whole.

The Community and its member States are concerned to draw to the attention of those responsible for the present deadlock the consequences, for the whole of Yugoslavia, of a deterioration of the situation and of further delay in starting the negotiations on the future of the country. They urge the collegiate Presidency to convene forthwith negotiations on the future of Yugoslavia. They express their readiness to convene such a conference themselves if necessary.

Such negotiations should be based on the principles that any change of internal and international borders by force is not acceptable and that any solution should guarantee the rights of minorities in all the republics.

They invite the Commission to inform the Twelve about what economic and financial measures could be taken against those parties which refuse a cease-fire and do not abide by the above-mentioned principles and how to improve economic and financial relations with those who do cooperate in this respect.

Bearing in mind the mandate received from the CSCE Meeting of High Officials, they welcome the convening of the follow-up CSCE Meeting later this week in Prague. They call on their CSCE partners to support the latest initiatives of the Twelve to bring about a cease-fire in Yugoslavia and to help promote peaceful dialogue which is necessary to create a situation in Yugoslavia that satisfies the aspirations of all its peoples.

They also welcome the intention of France and the United Kingdom as permanent members of the Security Council, and Belgium as non-permanent member, to keep the Security Council informed of EC actions regarding the situation in Yugoslavia with a view to the Security Council taking such measures as may be deemed appropriate.

The Community and its member States took note that the member States of the WEU have decided to instruct their representatives to take stock of the present situation in Yugoslavia and to examine whether there is any contribution which the WEU could make to the maintenance of an agreed cease-fire.